



This newsletter covers:

Editorial from Vice-President Ousmane Diagana / IDA20 / Country Climate and Development Report for the G5 Sahel region / Next generation should go from school to jobs / Events / AFW in the News / People first stories and more

## Editorial

### Putting People First as We Navigate Uncertain Times

When you read the daily headlines, it is clear that the world is in a precarious time. A set of complex and intertwined crises are having a devastating impact on the world's poor, with strong implications for the people of Western and Central Africa.

According to the most recent [Africa Pulse](#), growth in Sub-Saharan Africa is set to decelerate from 4.1% in 2021 to 3.3% in 2022 due to a [slowdown in global growth](#), rising inflation, adverse weather conditions, and the rising risk of debt distress. As the conflict in Ukraine continues, its effects are being felt in the Sahel and West Africa where rising food and fuel prices risk plunging 7 to 10 million people into food insecurity. This comes at a time when many countries in the region are also facing challenges related to climate adaptation and mitigation and reversals in human development gains, aggravated by limited fiscal space to implement effective government responses.

Against this backdrop, however, there is reason to be hopeful. I truly believe that if we act quickly – and at scale – we can turn these challenges into opportunities. With historic resources of \$93 billion, IDA20 provides the opportunity to shape a future where people are at the heart of development. As food systems face exceptional stress, there is a growing demand among Western and Central African countries for more climate-smart investments to build more resilient food systems for the future. And a lesson we have drawn from the COVID-19 pandemic is that digital technology has the power to transform development, allowing governments to more quickly and transparently deliver services to their people.

The time to act is now. As leaders from government, civil society, and the private sector convene next week for the [Annual Meetings](#) in Washington, DC, I hope we can catalyze action on concrete solutions to ensure inclusive, resilient, and sustainable economic development that is equitably shared by the people of Western and Central Africa.

**Ousmane Diagana**

Vice-president for Western and Central Africa

## HIGHLIGHTS



Walking through desert, Nigeria. Photo: World Bank

### Five things to know about IDA20

The World Bank's International Development Association just launched its 20th cycle. Following a historic replenishment of **\$93 billion**, IDA20 is well-suited to help countries address such compound challenges. So here are five ways in which IDA20 is fundamentally geared to help countries facing the challenges of today develop and deliver effective, time-tested solutions.

1. **People** support the burden of crises; people are at the heart of IDA20.
2. IDA20 has a robust focus on **crisis preparedness**
3. IDA20 has enhanced ambitions on **fighting the chronic crisis of climate change**
4. To **support especially vulnerable groups**, IDA20 has special provisions through which countries can access additional resources.
5. IDA20 has a strong handle and proactive plan on **sustainable debt management**.

[To read more](#)

### Sahelian countries must prioritize climate adaptation to tackle poverty and address food insecurity

Newly released [Country Climate and Development Report \(CCDR\) for the G5 Sahel region](#) estimates that up to 13.5 million people across the Sahel could fall into poverty due to climate change-related shocks by 2050 if urgent climate adaptation measures are not taken. The Sahel region is particularly vulnerable to land degradation, experiencing more extreme droughts, floods, and other impacts caused by climate change. Three of the G5 countries – **Chad, Niger, and Mali** – rank among the top seven most vulnerable countries to climate change and their ability to adapt is significantly constrained by poverty and fragility. [To read more](#)

## Next generation should go from school to jobs

On June 27-28, 2022, **The World Bank launched the AFW Education Strategy (2022-2025)**. Based on global and regional evidence, lessons learned, and consultations with diverse stakeholders, the Strategy shows key challenges and outlines strategic priorities, policy options, and high-impact interventions to increase access to education and equip youth with labor market-relevant skills. [To read more](#)

## EVENTS

### Let's meet soon

- **October 10-16, 2022** - World Bank Group and International Monetary Fund Annual Meetings. [To register](#)
- **October 15, 2022** - [Launch of State of the Africa Region Event](#)
- **October 17-18, 2022** - [Launch of African centers of excellence](#)

### Recent events you may have missed

- **October 4, 2022** - [Launch of Africa Pulse report](#)
- **June 2022** - [Spoken words poetry competition](#): Youth from Western and Central Africa were invited to send videos reciting their original poems about education to create awareness and engage in the discussion about ending learning poverty. [To read more](#)

## AFW IN THE NEWS

### West Africa food insecurity demands climate-smart response amid multiple crises

**France 24 | September 5, 2022** - As crises multiply and the devastating conflict in Ukraine drags on, its global effects are being felt hard in the Sahel and West Africa, a region with more than 38 million people facing acute food insecurity. The war's impacts risk pushing an additional 7 to 10 million people in the region into food insecurity. [To read more](#)



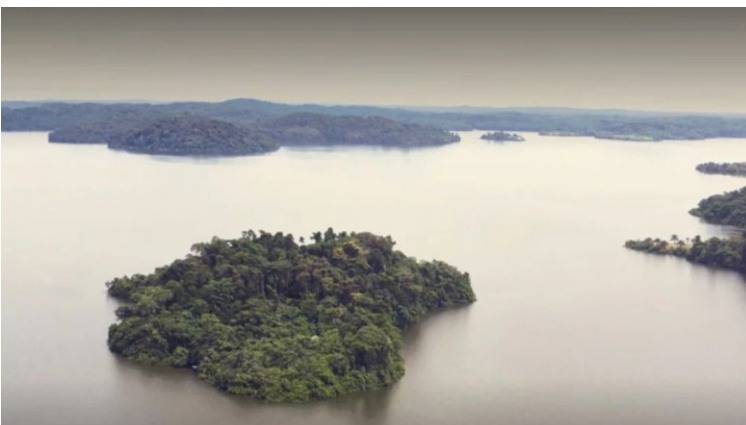
## Ousmane Diagana

Vice President, Western and  
Central Africa, World Bank

### Ousmane Diagana, World Bank Vice President for West and Central Africa

**Afrimag | Feature of the month - September 22, 2022** - The World Bank's current portfolio in the West and Central Africa region is about \$39 billion. Last year alone, the Bank approved \$11.5 billion in loans in the region. But its contribution is increasingly measured in terms of advice and support to transform these resources into structural development in 22 countries. [To read the full article](#)

#### PEOPLE FIRST: STORIES OF PEOPLE THAT CHANGE LIVES



### Everyday champions in Gabon are helping turn the tide in the fight

A young woman unloads cases of freshly caught fish from her boat onto the dock of the banks of the Ogooué river near the fish market of Lambaréné in Gabon. Marilou Ossawa is the President of a cooperative of smoked fish vendors, and one of the local champions who are helping raise awareness on eco-friendly fishing practices and the importance of preserving the country's natural capital – from fisheries to forest - to secure the livelihood of its people. [To read more about Marilou's story](#)



## Côte d'Ivoire: a small grant that changes lives

In this village in the Korhogo region in the north of Côte d'Ivoire, Yéo Sali is proud to show off her two cows to her visitors. Reflecting the radical change in her life, she has grown from a modest small farmer just two years ago to become the owner of a sizeable herd of livestock. The turning point for this 47-year-old mother of four was the cash transfer that she received from the government. [To read more about Yéo Sali's story](#)



## Nigeria: From selling millet balls to multi-businesswoman entrepreneur

Mina started with a small business, namely millet balls, a common dish eaten by Nigeriens who call it "Foura" in Hausa, her native language and the most spoken in Niger. Gradually, she developed other activities, in particular market gardening and goat fattening. "I was doing several small businesses, but the results weren't consistent as I was not well organized," she said. However, since the implementation of the [World Bank-funded Youth Employment and Productive Inclusion Project](#) in Guidan Rana, Mina's ambitions have taken on a different scale. [To read more about Mina's story](#)



## Sierra Leone: How to use educational radio to move from emergency to sustainability?

*Interactive Radio Instruction (IRI) and Interactive Audio Instruction (IAI)* encourage teachers and students to react verbally and physically (e.g., sing, play, move, dance, answer questions, demonstrate skills to classmates) to exercises posed within radio lessons and to participate in group work, experiments, and other activities. [To read more about this story](#)

## DID YOU KNOW?



### **The World Bank puts African artists in the spotlight**

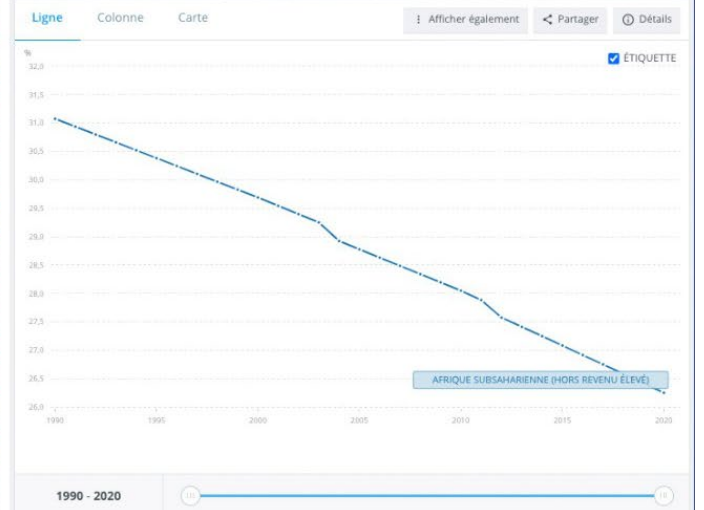
[We Are Afrika: The Power of Women and Youth](#) is an exhibition presented by the World Bank Group which celebrates and explores the work of artists hailing from across the African continent. The exhibition investigates what progress means within many different African contexts and presents provocative visions of the future. [To read more about We Are Afrika](#)

## SMART DATA



Surface forestière (% du territoire) - Sub-Saharan Africa (excluding high income)

fichiers électroniques et site Web de l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture.



### Forest area in Sub-Saharan Africa

[Forest area \(% of land area\) - Sub-Saharan Africa \(excluding high income\).](#)

The World Bank recognizes that transparency and accountability are essential to the development process and central to achieving the Bank's mission to alleviate poverty. Without data, you are just another person with an opinion. As a knowledge institution, the World Bank's first step is to share its knowledge freely and openly. Find [more data and statistics](#) from The World Bank.

## RESOURCES YOU MAY FIND USEFUL

### Ongoing projects in Western and Central Africa

- [Developing and promoting sustainable practices and approaches for eliminating and reduction of harmful chemicals and waste in africa](#)
- [Kandadji Niger Basin Water Resources Program APL2A](#)
- [Benin Second Unlocking Human and Productive Potential DPF series](#)
- [Cabo Verde Social Inclusion Project](#)
- [Regional Sahel Pastoralism Support Project](#)
- [Cameroon Nachtigal Hydropower Project](#)
- [CAR: LONDO "Stand Up" Project](#)
- [The Gambia - Education Sector Support Program](#)
- [Ghana Additional Financing for Greater Accra Metropolitan Area Sanitation and Water Project](#)
- [Guinea Bissau: The Quality Education for All Project](#)
- [Getting to best in education](#)
- [AF3 Republic of Congo COVID-19 Emergency Response Project](#)
- [Congo Digital Acceleration Project](#)
- [First Additional Financing for the Lisungi Emergency COVID-19 Response Project](#)
- [Sierra Leone Skills Development Project](#)



# Industrialization in Sub-Saharan Africa

## Seizing Opportunities in Global Value Chains

Kaleb G. Abreha, Woubet Kassa, Emmanuel K. K. Lartey,  
Taye A. Mengistae, Solomon Owusu, and Albert G. Zeufack

**Latest publication: Industrialization in Sub-Saharan Africa (French edition): Seizing Opportunities in Global Value Chains**

This report comprehensively reassesses the prospects for industrialization playing a critical role in Sub-Saharan African countries' development and shows that manufacturing represents a viable path to structural transformation through integration into global value chains (GVC). [View pdf](#)

[More publications](#) from the World Bank



## JOBS AND CAREERS

### Visit the AFW Recruitment Drive

Over thirty local positions are [now open](#) for internal and external applicants in Compass. We are inviting agriculture, digital development, energy, environmental, public health, procurement, private sector, public sector, social protection, transport, water supply and sanitation specialists to apply through **October 12, 2022**.

[All you need to know about Careers in Western and Central Africa](#)



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